

taken up with the ICAR after its decision on taking over the assets of NISST.

(c) In view of the circumstances brought out in (b) and (c) above, no fixed date can at present be intimated.

Wastage and theft of foodgrains from FCI Godowns

3638. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of foodgrains which is wasted and stolen from the godowns of FCI during the last three years;

(b) the amount involved in such incidents;

(c) whether Government have taken any measures to prevent such thefts in the godowns of FCI; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN): (a) Foodgrains are lost in storage due to driage of moisture, multiple handling and prolonged storage.

[19 April, 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

The total storage loss occurred in foodgrains (Wheat, Rice and Paddy in terms of rice) during the last three years is given below:—

Figures Provisional
Quantity in Lakh M.T.
Value in Rupees Crores

Year		Quantity of loss in storage		
		Wheat	Rice	Paddy
1997-98	Qty(—)	0.02	1.48	0.35
	Value(—)	1.49	111.78	26.25
1998-99	Qty(—)	0.09	1.31	0.29
	Value(—)	6.00	112.00	24.00
1999-2000	Qty(+)	0.02	1.15	0.43
	Value(+)	2.00	108.00	40.00

Qty(—) — denotes gain

The quantity of foodgrains stolen from the godowns of FCI during the last three years is as under:—

Commodity		Years		
		1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
Wheat	Bags	480	609	348
	Kattas	—	569	1138
Rice	Bags	1279	206	286
	Kattas	—	—	167
Paddy	Bags	—	—	404

(b) The amount involved on account of theft for the last three years in given below:—

Figures in Rupees

Commodity	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	Total
Wheat	—	647525	523137	
Rice	1472960	126787	347377	
Paddy	—	—	173379	
TOTAL: (Wheat & Rice)	1472960	774312	1043893	3291165

(c) and (d) The measures taken to prevent thefts in FCI godowns are mentioned below:—

- (i) Physical measures like: installation of barbed wire fencing of the boundary walls; provision of streetlights for illumination of godowns; and proper locking of the sheds, are taken to secure the godowns.
- (ii) Security staff of FCI as well as other Agencies like Homeguards, Special Police Officers and Private Security Guards are deployed wherever necessary for the safety of the godowns.
- (iii) Deployment of Central Industrial Security Force and State Armed Police at vulnerable godowns.
- (iv) Security inspection of depots is done at various levels to detect and plug security lapses.
- (v) FIRs are lodged with the Police for investigation of theft cases. Apart from this, departmental action, including recovery of loss, is taken by the FCI against the negligent staff.